

MINUTES OF THE FORTY-FIFTH MEETING OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON
EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

11 March 1955

Present

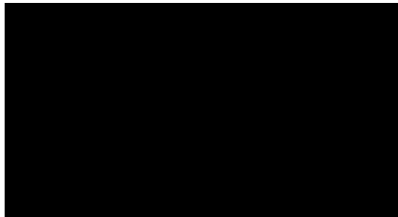
Members: John Lacey, State
Richard Bauer, Army
Cdr. G.B. McKinney, Navy
LTJG Richard W. Hanson (replacing Cdr. McKinney)
Maj. Howard G. Neumann, Air Force

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Consultants:



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1. The 45th meeting convened at 1400 hours and the minutes of the 44th meeting were approved with the following amendments:

a. NSA: Page 2, paragraph 5 should read, [REDACTED] stated that in some areas, such as common sponsored conferences held outside the Satellite area and speeches, NSA is getting more coverage than needed as the subjects were well covered elsewhere."

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b. State: Page 3, second paragraph, fifth line should read, "We are primarily organized geographically rather than functionally so that the product becomes incidental to a great number of our consumers." Also change "selections" to "coverage" in the next to the last line.

c. Page 4, subparagraph a, third line, delete "it would be of use to CIA, but."

2. The Chairman reported that FDD had examined the feasibility of conforming to the two questions raised at the previous meeting: 1) the possibility of providing an index, country by country, of each issue of the "Selected Briefs From the International Press" and 2) the repetition of article titles when such articles were carried over to a second page. Each of these is a clerical detail which would add work to the small, hard-pressed FDD clerical staff and consequently would impede operations. FDD feels that it cannot afford to undertake either of these changes. In lieu of this it will consider steps leading to the inclusion of the names of the country in the titles of each item to facilitate rapid location by the consumer analysts.

3. USSR Program

State: Mr. Lacey stated that State is generally satisfied with the program and has no objections to the proposed revisions. Two additions, however, are desirable: 1) coverage of propaganda treatment of Soviet leaders and 2) crime report. There is some dissatisfaction in that the spot treatment in many reports tends to be too fragmentary. State would prefer more comprehensive collations, such as the coverage of "ministerial changes" and the report on "education." Mr. Lacey noted that there is duplication of materials received from other sources and suggested that the more obscure publications should be given better coverage. In answer to the Chairman's query Mr. Lacey stated that State would like continuance of the crime report but it would be difficult to establish a priority and the priority on propaganda treatment of Soviet leaders should be worked out in liaison.

The Chairman at this point distributed to the members copies of the first FDD "Annual Report on USSR Republic Budgets," Summary No. 381 dated 18 Feb 1955.

Army: Mr. Bauer asked whether FDD had managed to receive "Sovetskiy Flot," and the Chairman stated that it had not. Mr. Bauer and Cdr. McKinney stated that both Army and Navy do receive a copy and agreed that the Army copy would be made available to FDD.

Navy: Cdr. McKinney presented a written statement of Navy's detailed comments which are attached to the Subcommittee's record.

25X1A9a CIA: [REDACTED] stated that his previous agreement to eliminate material on lower level education referred to general education. CIA desires continued coverage on all levels of technical education. Contrary to previous expression of interest, local details on labor and manpower are not necessary.

4. Mr. Lacey stated that it would be helpful if FDD could arrange to have the covers of the program reports changed so that the title would be prominent and the word "summary" played down or eliminated. Also a change in the numbering system is needed so that each report will carry its own series number and not be registered in an overall FDD summary series. This will greatly remedy present troubles in distribution.

The Chairman stated that FDD would study this and try to remedy it as requested.

5. The Chairman distributed to the members: a) the detailed report on final working agreement on the scientific abstracting program and b) first FDD report on "Review of Chinese Communist Scientific and Technical Periodicals," Summary No. 376 dated 9 Feb 1955, and stated that the latter will be published quarterly hereafter.

6. China Program

State: Mr. Lacey stated that State has no objection to the proposed combining of economic, sociological and military reports into one weekly publication if each of these subject categories start on a new page. State

considers the whole program a great improvement over the old reporting. Operational liaison is gratifying. State's economists are pleased with the economic reporting but some improvement in sociological and political coverage is desired. There is a feeling that there is considerable duplication of other sources. Some inaccuracies have been in evidence. State is not satisfied with the emphasis on biographical reporting. Earlier reports carried much more full coverage than later issues. More provincial coverage is desired.

25X1A9a The Chairman stated that he appreciated these comments, and that [redacted] will confer with State in order to remedy the deficiencies.

Army: Mr. Bauer stated that Army has found FDD's military report *on China* extremely useful. In fact, it is the best report coming out of CIA according to the analysts on the desks. The economic and sociological reports are of considerable value, especially to the Technical Services. Army has no objections to the proposed changes.

Mr. Bauer asked whether FDD can prepare semianual compilations on China. Mr. Bass stated that it cannot be done on a regular basis but would be happy to discuss with Technical Services any special compilations on a specific subject.

25X1A9a [redacted] asked Mr. Bauer how the O/B information in FDD's military report compared with that received from other sources. Mr. Bauer replied that it was accurate and unique and such information was not available from other sources.

Navy: Cdr. McKinney stated that Navy wishes to defer comment until all components had been heard from.

Air Force: Maj. Neumann stated that Air thought highly of the military report although all components have not been heard from. He added that the 6002 AISS exploits the same sources as FDD as well as some not received by FDD. A-2 has no objection to the proposed changes.

25X1A9a CIA: [redacted] stated that the weekly economic report is useful to CIA. He added that CIA was happy with three reports but would not object to their being combined into one weekly.

25X1A9a [redacted] asked to what extent, other than publication of tables of contents, periodicals were exploited. [redacted] replied that there was no regular exploitation but periodical information appeared in the economic and sociological as a result of specific requests. Any provision for regular exploitation could only be accomplished by taking manpower away from some other part of the program. 25X1A9a

25X1A9a [redacted] found the annotated bibliographies of monographs useful and would like to see them resumed. He stated that considerable investment of money and manpower had been put into the matter with [redacted] survey of the holdings of US institutions, procurement of pertinent documents and the discussion in review panels. [redacted] felt that there was a need for continuing such a program. 25X1A9a

The Chairman stated that this should be discussed further at the next meeting. He added that the Subcommittee should consider whether CIA Library (Foreign Branch) should give complete rather than selective coverage, and whether FDD should do it; also what program of monograph exploitation may be possible and desirable in lieu of some of the current program effort.

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[REDACTED] stated that CIA does use the index of Communist newspapers, but would not object seriously to its discontinuance.

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NSA: [REDACTED] stated that the program appears satisfactory to NSA. He asked whether FDD could include the cable code for names, and if this was impossible, whether the page of the source on which the name occurred could not be included in the reported articles. [REDACTED] replied that cable coding could not be done with present manpower, but that FDD will study the possibility of page references.

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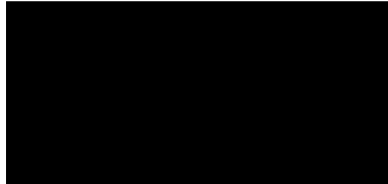
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[REDACTED] stated that NSA has no objection to the proposed program changes.

7. The Chairman distributed copies of FDD's proposed revision of the Eastern Europe Program for review by the members.

8. The agenda for the next meeting is a) continuation of review of the China Program and b) the Eastern Europe Program.

9. The meeting adjourned at 1530 hours. The next meeting will be held on Friday, 25 March 1955, in Room 2125 M Building at 1400 hours.



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